GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6016
ANSWERED ON:06.05.2002
COCONUT FARMERS IN CRISIS
SRIKANTA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the hardships being faced by the coconut farmers in the country particularly in Karnataka;

(b) if so, the steps taken to assist the coconut farmers in controlling pests and to develop coconut farming in the country; and

(c) the details of Central assistance allocated to that State under Integrated CoconutDevelopment Programme during the last three years?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

(a) & (b): Government is aware of the problems of the coconut farmers. For increasing production and productivity of coconuts in the country, Government of India is implementing programmes, viz., production & distribution of quality planting material; removal of disease advanced palms by providing assistance; laying out demonstration plots in farmers field; aid to organic manure unit; aid to registered/private/approved nurseries; and new planting under coconut. Besides, Scheme for Technology Missionon Coconut has been launched during 2001-2002 for giving focused attention on management of insects, pest and diseases; processing and product diversification; and market research and promotion. During the period 1998-99 to 2001-2002, an assistance of Rs.57.84 crores has been exclusively provided for control of coconut mite in the States of Kerala, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu.

(c): The central assistance released to the State of Karnataka under the CentralSector Scheme `Integrated Development of Coconut Industry in India` during the last 3 years is given below:-

Year	Amount released (Rupees in lakhs)
1999-2000	312.09
2000-01	841.06
2001-02	629.84